GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3708
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2007
WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from certain States including Rajasthan during the last three years under Watershed Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas/districts covered/to be covered thereunder in each State;

(d) whether funds have been released for all such areas/districts;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the time by which the funds are likely to be released for all the selected locations thereunder including Sikar district in Rajasthan?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(DR. RANGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (b) The Department of Land Resources of Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three long term Watershed Development Programmes i.e. Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) on watershed basis. While DPAP and DDP are implemented in identified blocks (by Hanumantha Rao committee), IWDP is implemented in non DPAP and non DDP blocks. The projects under DPAP/DDP are sanctioned in the pre-identified blocks while the projects under IWDP are sanctioned through the Project Sanctioning Committee. The areas for sanctioning new projects under the Watershed Development Programmes are decided for each State keeping in view requirement of funds for meeting the demands under on-going projects, the extent of wastelands in the State, issue of poverty, backwardness, effect of drought, capacity to implement wasteland projects, performance of the State in implementation of IWDP projects and availability of budget after meeting the committed liability of ongoing projects and other related factors. The lists of the prioritized districts are sent by the State Governments under IWDP indicating the watershed areas to be treated. The prioritised proposals which are not sanctioned lapse after due consideration by the Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) which inter alia, includes a State Government representative. The States, however, may include the proposals not recommended by the PSC in the priority list for the next meeting of the PSC. As such, there is no pendency of IWDP proposals. In case of DPAP/DDP, the watershed areas are selected by the ZPs/DRDAs later on. The first installment of the project is released suo moto along with the sanction.

(c) to (g) The areas/districts covered in each State under IWDP, DPAP and DDP during the last three years and the funds released under the three programmes including Sikar under DDP is placed at annexure A to C.